

Appl. No. : 09/603,665
Filed : June 23, 2000

- b) obtaining a biological sample comprising said antibody;
- c) contacting said polypeptide with the antibody under conditions the allow specific binding of said antibody to said polypeptide; and,
- d) binding said antibody to said polypeptide.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed March 27, 2001, Applicants have elected to prosecute Group IV, claims 46-47, drawn to purified polypeptides and antibodies. Applicants have added claims 65-78 drawn to purified polypeptide and antibody and methods of binding the antibody. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and following comments.

Claims 46, 47, and 65-79 are pending with entry of the present amendment. Support for new Claims 65-79 is found throughout the specification, and in particular at page 49, lines 10-34, at page 50, line 15 to page 51, line 9, and at page 53 line 1 to page 54, line 24. Applicants respectfully point out that Claims 65-79 are written in Markush group format solely for ease of examination, and once Claims 65-79 are in condition for allowance, Applicants intend to add dependent claims to the members of Markush groups of Claim 65-79. Applicants request that in order to be consistent with the policy of keeping product claims and claims to making and using the claimed product together in a single application (see M.P.E.P. §821.04), new Claims 72-74, 76, and 78 which relate to methods of making and using the claimed compositions be examined along with the composition claims.

The amended claims are shown on a separate set of pages attached hereto and entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. In these pages, the insertions are underlined while the ~~deletions are stricken through~~.

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Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 1, 2001

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

46. (Amended) An isolated, purified, or recombinant polypeptide comprising a contiguous span of at least 6 amino acids of SEQ ID No 5, wherein said continuous span includes:

- at least 1 of the amino acid positions 1 to 1629 of the SEQ ID No 5; or
- an amino acid selected from the group consisting of an asparagine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 1694 of SEQ ID No 5, a valine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 1854 of SEQ ID No 5, an asparagine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 1967 of SEQ ID No 5, a glutamic acid at ~~the~~ amino acid position 2017 of SEQ ID No 5, and an alanine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 2050 of SEQ ID No 5.

47. (Amended) An isolated or purified antibody composition ~~are~~ capable of selectively binding to an epitope-containing fragment of a polypeptide according to claim 46, wherein said epitope comprises:

- at least 1 of the amino acid positions 1 to 1629 of the SEQ ID NO 5; or
- an amino acid selected from the group consisting of an asparagine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 1694 of SEQ ID No 5, a valine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 1854 of SEQ ID No 5, an asparagine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 1967 of SEQ ID No 5, a glutamic acid at ~~the~~ amino acid position 2017 of SEQ ID No 5, and an alanine at ~~the~~ amino acid position 2050 of SEQ ID No 5.